

*[Translation]***Verification of Coal Stock**

3647. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether ground stocks of all the mines under Central Coal Fields Limited have been verified during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) The ground stocks of all the mines under Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) have been verified by measurement during last three years;

(b) The details regarding stock position, year-wise, in CCL are as under :—

Year	Book Stock (M.T.)	Measured Stock (M.T.)	Remarks
As on 31.3.94	11.51	10.95	Within the allowable limit of variation
As on 31.3.95	11.22	4.95	Action initiated for the variation
As on 31.3.96	Measurement of the stock has been completed; auditing is in progress.		

*[English]***Reforms in Foreign Exchange Market**

3648. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India intends to introduce wide ranging reforms in foreign exchange market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the benefits RBI expects by introducing these reforms; and

(d) by when these reforms are likely to come into force?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d) RBI is examining various recommendations on Forex Markets made by the Expert Group. Out of 33 major recommendations of the Expert Group, 10 directly relate to Forex Market Reforms, 3 of which have already been introduced.

The reforms are aimed at adding depth and liquidity to the market.

**Income Tax Act**

3649. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :  
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to modify the Section 80 HAC of Income Tax Act, 1961;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received representations from the federation of Indian exporters regarding continuation of the said section and its extension on the long term basis; and

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) There is no proposal to modify section 80 HHC. However, by Finance Bill (No. 2) of 1996, it has been proposed to levy a minimum tax on companies. Some corporate exporters may, therefore, have to pay a small tax.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Representations are considered by the Government.

**Financial Assistance to Women Cooperatives**

3650. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to enhance the financial assistance from Rs. 40,000/- to Rs. 1 lakh to Women Cooperatives in the ratio of 25% loan and 25% subsidy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Community Development and Welfare works done by CIL**

3651. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of community development and welfare works undertaken by Coal India Limited in the coalfield areas of Bihar during the last three years; and

(b) the amount spent by the CIL thereon during each

of the last three years in the State and other coal producing States, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (b) The details of community development/welfare works undertaken by CIL and its subsidiary companies in the coalfield areas of Bihar and amount spent thereon state-wise during the last three years is given below :—

S No.	Works undertaken	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	Construction of Community Centres, Marketing Centres/ Bus stands.	74	28	23
2	Installation of Handpumps/ Sinking of wells/laying pipelines for water supply/ Development of ponds.	79	116	53
3	Construction of Roads/ Culverts.	41	41	36
4	Construction of school buildings/supply of accessories for schools	80	144	111
5	Medical camp organised/ supply of medicines/Eye camp/baby show etc.	35	34	60
6	Self-employment i.e. tailoring, training, embroidery, shoe making, Motor Driving etc.	50	18	26
7	Sports and cultural	37	14	90
8	Miscellaneous works undertaken	61	83	26

The amount spent are as under :

(Rs. in lakh)

State	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Bihar	165.78	185.81	209.89
West Bengal	31.56	32.67	26.15
Madhya Pradesh	139.68	194.24	190.89
Maharashtra	108.00	53.77	122.94
Orissa	72.00	170.00	266.00
U.P.	12.30	10.89	11.00
Assam	2.66	7.15	2.56
Total	531.98	654.53	829.43

#### Demand and Supply of Cement

3652. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR :  
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the production of cement and its consumption in each State during each of the last three years; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Union Government to bridge the gap between demand and supply of cement in the States?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) The details of production and consumption of cement in respect of large plants in each of the States during the last three years are given in the enclosed statement. Although the consumption figures are not maintained centrally, these are assessed on the basis of Inter-State cement movement data being maintained by the Cement Manufacturers' Association. The data regarding production of mini cement plants is also not maintained centrally.

(b) Although the country as a whole is surplus in cement, there is a gap in some States. Apart from encouraging creation of additional installed capacity of cement, Government is providing rail wagons on priority basis for movement of cement from surplus to deficit areas.